

Leland, Naomi, Lincoln, and Lauren Johnson

missionaries to **Brazil**

October 13, 2017



If you have been following our letters, you know that we had planned on moving to Salvador in the early months of next year. During our trip here in July, it was clear that God was accelerating those plans, but it was not clear why. As we have begun to settle into Salvador, the reason has become more apparent.

We expected to spend our first several weeks getting adjusted to the area, but in an area like this, there is not much time to sit on the bench. The church that we are now attending is one a small handful of good churches in a metro area of over two million. In an area like this, every good church needs help. The church that we are helping was started over 20 years ago. As the pastor has trained men to take over the work, God has moved them to towns farther up the coast to start new works or to take over small works without pastors. This means that the resources here are stretched thin.

The missionary who we are working with asked me to preach at the church, both to have an idea of how he can help with my development and to know how best I can be of help to the ministry. After preaching, he gave me several ways to continue improving and said that he was very impressed with how my Portuguese was developing and with the development of our whole family. I was unsure if he was just being kind, that is until the next week when he asked me to fill the pulpit while he was out of town and to teach a singles' group Bible study.

The next week, one of the pastors who is working further up the coast notified the missionary that he was going to be out for a month. As you can imagine, his response was just to allow me to make the schedule and take as many dates as I felt comfortable preaching. Comfortable or not, that means I am preaching eight more times before the end of October!

On the home-front, I have just one story of God's goodness. Once we were moved in, Lincoln and Lauren went outside to play and meet some of the kids. A little later, they came inside and were so excited to tell us that the boy and girl who live across the street both speak English. Not only that, but they asked the kids if they were Christians, and they both are! We were glad not only that God put us across the street from kids who can make ours feel comfortable in this new area and help them connect with other kids, but also that one of our children's first thoughts in meeting their new friends was to ask them about their relationship with God.

Please make note of our new address. This address is different than the address that we just sent in our last letter. The city has been working to rezone the entire city for ten years. It happens that they finished one month after we arrived, right after we sent out our new address. Of course, the post office immediately went on strike and no mail has been delivered in the past few weeks anyway! We are still living in the same house, but the address is completely different. As always, thank you for your prayers. God is working.

**ANOTHER ADDRESS
CHANGE!**

Yes, different from the
last letter!

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